

Village News



info@village.longview.ab.ca

March 2017

IMPORTANT REMINDERS **FROM ADMINISTRATION**

COUNCIL MEETINGS: The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21st, at 7:00 p.m. at the Longview Community Hall. Please feel free to contact council members directly or by dropping mail into the office should you wish to address a matter. Please remember we need to hear from you 5 days prior to the meeting to schedule a delegation. We HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



LICENSING:

Dog Licenses were due by **January 31st**. Any dog over 6 months of age must be licensed in Longview. The cost of a 2017 license has increased, as of February 1st. There are still a number of unlicensed dogs in the village, this year we will be doing a compliance check and fines will be issued.

Business Licenses were also due in January. All businesses in the Village must have a business license.



SNOW REMOVAL: The Village does its best to clear the sidewalks but it is done only as a ***COURTESY***. Property owners are ultimately responsible for removal of snow from sidewalks within 24 hours after snow has stopped falling. If snow is continuous, an effort must be made to remove the snow as soon as possible.

COUNCILLORS' CORNER: Council would like to welcome our new CAO Dale Harrison. Dale is very familiar with all the qualifications needed for the position. In the past he has been a CAO twice, Economic Development Officer, Treasurer, Development Officer and has extensive experience with MGA, bylaws, budgets, policies and procedures. If you have any questions or concerns drop in to say hi and ask. Dale knows how small communities work so he will be a great fit!!

5 COUNCILLORS OPEN HOUSE: After numerous discussions with residents and two open houses, Council has decided to not change the number of councillors. The general feed back and thoughts from the residents were not in favour of any changes at this time. Thank you to all the residents who participated.

FORTIS ALBERTA EARTH HOUR: We have signed up for Fortis Alberta's Earth Hour Challenge. Earth Hour is a global event that encourages people and businesses to turn off unnecessary lights, appliances and electronic devices to help conserve power and raise awareness around environmental issues. Join Fortis Alberta's Earth Hour Challenge give the village a chance to win one of three Earth Hour grants! Grants will be awarded to the three communities with the highest energy savings per capita during the Earth Hour event which takes place on **Saturday, March 25 from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.** First, second and third place winners will be awarded with \$5000, \$2500 and \$1500 grants respectively.

Alberta RESIDENTIAL NO-CHARGE ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM
Energy Efficiency Alberta's trained installers will be in the field starting this April. You can sign up now to have energy efficient product upgrades installed in your home. When they visit, the trained installers will—at no charge—install energy-savings products that will allow you to save money right away. These products—lightbulb, faucet aerators, and smart thermostats—will help your home become more energy efficient.

Please go to www.encyalberta.ca for more information

From The Village Office:

I am happy to be a part of the governance team for the Village of Longview. As seen elsewhere in this newsletter, I am not a novice in this position. I have lived in a variety of communities ranging in size from 700 to 50,000. I have worked with over 70 communities as a consultant on a specific project. I have seen both the right way and the wrong way to do various aspects of municipal government. I have been a lifelong learner and I am no spring chicken.

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) outlines the Roles and Responsibilities of the CAO.

207 The chief administrative officer

- 1) is the administrative head of the municipality;*
- 2) ensures that the policies and programs of the municipality are implemented;*
- 3) advises and informs the council on the operation and affairs of the municipality;*
- 4) performs the duties and functions and exercises the powers assigned to a chief administrative officer by this and other enactments or assigned by council.*

1994 cM-26.1 s207

The core services that the Village provides to residents are: water, sewer, solid waste disposal, snow removal and streets, sidewalks, lighting, emergency services, bylaw & policing enforcement, recreation and culture. Part of my responsibility as CAO is to identify best practices providing services to the Village.

Services cost money and staff to deliver and the CAO is responsible to work with Council to determine a level of service and budget to provide those services. Section 208 of the MGA identifies the CAO's financial responsibilities to collect and record the money through taxes, utilities, and grants.

If you the ratepayers have concerns about the quality or level of service provided by the Village, you are welcome to stop by the Village Office and talk with me or talk with the members of your council.

We live in community with our neighbours and a strong community is where neighbours support neighbours, we all contribute to the quality of life in the Village of Longview.

Dale Harrison, CAO

2017 Longview Youth Group:

The Longview Grand Prix was another huge success!! 41 cars raced to the finish line this year. The checkered flag and 1st place for speed was taken by Chase Ayrey.

Some of the cars are displayed in the Village display case.

The Archery Shoot at Fly's Etc. had 10 youth out to take aim.

The February ski trip to Castle Mountain had 39 skiers. A big thank you to Southland for donating a bus for the trip.

Hunters Education Course was changed from January to March 10-11. If you would like to take this course, please call/text Lisa M at 403-703-5884.

April 22nd is scheduled for the FireArms Certification Course to be held at the hall. Sign-up by calling Len K at 403-899-9778 or George at 403-808-9948.

Fridays Sports Nights at the school will continue into June as listed in the brochure.

THE LITTLE NEW YORK DAZE COMMITTEE:

Would like to give a BIG thank you to all of the volunteers that made the Valentines Dinner & Dance a huge success. From setting up the hall to take down, all of the amazing auction items that were donated, the wonderful dinner prepared by Jason Parnell with help from Rhonda Parnell & Doreen Kirk.

Thank you to the DJ Daniel. Functions like this cannot happen without the wonderful residents of Longview and surrounding area.

We look forward to LNYD's on the 14th, 15th & 16th of July. Volunteers will be needed for this weekend as well as on the committee; please, if you are interested contact Aaron Lyons, LNYD's Committee President.

GO ME!! COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM-SPRING SESSION

Hey there wellness buffs!! Our GO ME!! Fitness classes continue at the Longview Community Hall. We offer free classes to anyone interested in working on their various issues that life cares to throw at us.

We have a slower stability ball/chair exercise program on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings from 10 am to 11:30 am. We have cheese (a quickie protein boost) and refreshments after class if anyone wants to talk about an issue they are welcome to. We fondly refer to our morning class as Longview's Senior Warriors!

We also offer a Wednesday evening class from 6 pm until 7:30 pm. We have been exploring numerous workouts on the BOSU ball and stability ball which challenges our whole core, balance and stamina. This is a faster paced, more advanced class than our morning group! Bring a towel and sneakers and the only requirement is that you sign a Par-Q form (health related) and a waiver.

Although our classes seem to be mainly seniors there is no age restriction and we have even been lucky enough to have a junior (3 year old) Longviewite attend class with his Grandma!!

Come on out and get healthy, balanced and have a wee bit of fun with your neighbors!!

Quick note there will be no classes on Wed. March 22nd and Thurs., the 23rd this month as we will be attending the Community ChooseWell Healthy Community Symposium in Calgary. We have been asked to share our experiences in Longview and what our community is doing to address our collective health concerns.





**The FCSS Committee and Recreation Board
are looking for new members.**

We need 2 Village Residents for FCSS &
1 Village and 1 MD Resident for Rec Board

All Positions require a commitment to attend 1 or
2 meetings per year.

Please contact Cliff or the Village Office for more
information.

Positions need to be filled by March 20th

The 2016 Census numbers are out and Longview has remained the same as the 2011 census - 307 people while the province of Alberta grew by 14.3% over the same period. Why are those numbers important? In the world of local government, the theme of community sustainability is in constant discussion at the provincial level. The most obvious issue of stagnant growth is that the costs for provision of services has gone up. Fuel costs, electricity, wages, while at the same time government grants have declined. New standards for water and wastewater are set by the province with no alternatives for local communities but to comply and upgrade. At the same time equipment and infrastructure have been continually wearing out.

Council this month received an Infrastructure Management Plan that looked at the condition of the water, wastewater, and road infrastructure in the Village. Some of the water & waste water systems are 50 years old and starting to show signs of major deterioration. This Plan lays out a priority list of upgrades that will need to be undertaken in the future, with approximate price tags. What it doesn't show is how the Village is going to pay for it.

This is the dilemma that the Village faces. We need to increase our income and try to reduce our expenses; both are easier said than done. Increases in taxes is unpopular, the alternative is to increase the tax base. There is an economic development committee looking at ways to do that. Reducing spending means cutting services or finding more efficient ways to deliver services; also not as easy to do as to say. This is the role of administration and Council and there are no simple solutions.

Over the next month or so administration and Council will be looking at the budget for 2017 to determine short term answers. There is a bigger discussion that will need to take place to look at long-term strategies and solutions. People in general don't like change; unfortunately the world around us is constantly changing.

We need to focus on the positive for motivation to grow because there is enough negative around us to limit the future of Longview. You can help by identifying what you like about Longview. Why do you live in Longview? Think about it, ponder it, and be ready to share it.

Village of Longview

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Village Office Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday– Friday	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Closed for lunch	12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Mayor

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Carole MacLeod

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Councillor

Cliff Ayrey

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C.A.O

Dale Harrison

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